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CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara Youth Council's 2011 Youth Impact Award

RECOMMENDATION: That Council recognize the Santa Barbara Youth Council for being one of the recipients of the 2011 Youth Impact Award.

DISCUSSION:

The KIDS Network is a county-wide umbrella organization created by the Board of Supervisors in 1991. It is an advisory body on children and family issues formed to coordinate services and strategically determine priority needs and concerns in the areas of human services, health, education, and juvenile justice for children and families. As part of its annual mission, the KIDS Network recognizes young people who have contributed to and made a significant positive impact on their community. This year, the Santa Barbara Youth Council was one of the recipients of this noteworthy award. The awards were presented on February 29, 2012 at the County Education Office.

The Santa Barbara Youth Council was recognized for its long-standing volunteer services, resilience, and demonstration of transforming challenging situations into positive impacts for the community, such as their contributions to Skater's Point, the Teen Alley, and Twelve35 Teen Center. Among the accomplishments they were recognized for was dedicating over 2,000 hours annually in community service projects for the City as well as collaborations with other non-profit agencies such as Domestic Violence Solutions, Coalition Against Gun Control, Endowment for Youth Committee, Friday Night Live, CADA, and Future Leaders of America.

The Youth Council was also recognized for their participation in the creation of the City of Santa Barbara's Social Host Ordinance, and for their Youth Speak Outs on suicide, bullying, teen rights, and underage drinking. The contributions that they have made will outlive the term of any one Youth Council member, and what they do annually has a long range impact on the community at large.

Receiving an honorable mention at the Youth Impact awards ceremony was Michael Yi, Youth Intern for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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